

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method comprising:

- 5 a) detecting with a computer of an automated banking machine for the presence of a bootable media in at least one alternative storage device drive of the automated banking machine, wherein a BIOS of the computer specifies which of a plurality of storage device drives corresponds to a default storage device drive which does not require an input of a first BIOS password, and which of the plurality of storage
- 10 device drives corresponds to the at least one alternative storage device drive which does require the input of the BIOS boot password;
- b) booting the computer responsive to a boot record on either the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive or a bootable media of the default storage device drive;
- 15 wherein when the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive is detected in step (a), the booting of the computer includes requiring at least once for a user to input a password, wherein when the

inputted password corresponds to the BIOS boot password stored in the BIOS of the computer, the computer is booted responsive to the boot record on the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive; and

5 wherein when the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive is not detected in step (a), the computer is booted responsive to a boot record on the bootable media of the default storage device drive without requiring a user to input the BIOS boot password.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein when the bootable media of the at least one
10 alternative storage device drive is detected in step (a) and the BIOS boot password is not inputted within a predetermined amount of time, in step (b) the computer is booted responsive to the boot record of the bootable media of the default storage device drive.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein when the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive is detected in step (a) and at least once the inputted password
15 does not correspond to the BIOS boot password stored in the BIOS of the computer, in step (b) the computer is booted responsive to the boot record of the bootable media of the default storage device drive.

4. The method according to claim 1, and further comprising:

- c) executing at least one terminal control software component in the computer which is stored on the bootable media of the default storage device drive; and
- d) dispensing cash from a cash dispenser responsive to at least one terminal control software component.

5 5. The method according to claim 1, and further comprising:

- c) receiving a first input that is representative of a request to run a BIOS setup program; and
- d) requiring a user to provide a second input that corresponds to the BIOS boot password stored in the BIOS prior to running the BIOS setup program.

10 6. The method according to claim 1, and further comprising:

- c) receiving a first input that is representative of a request to run a BIOS setup program; and
- d) requiring a user to provide a second input that corresponds to a BIOS program password stored in the BIOS prior to running the BIOS setup program.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein in steps (b) and (c) both the BIOS boot password and the BIOS program password are stored in the BIOS of the computer.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein in step (b) the default storage device drive and associated bootable media correspond to a hard drive.

5 9. The method according to claim 8, wherein in step (b) the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive corresponds to a portable media.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein in step (b) the portable media corresponds to a floppy disk.

10 11. The method according to claim 9, wherein in step (b) the portable media corresponds to a CD.

12. The method according to claim 9, wherein in step (b) the portable media corresponds to a DVD.

13. The method according to claim 9, wherein in step (b) the portable media corresponds to a portable hard drive.

14. Computer readable media bearing instructions which are operative to cause the computer in the automated banking machine to cause the machine to carry out the method steps recited in claim 1.

15. The computer readable media according to claim 14, wherein the instructions include a file that is operative to update a flash memory device of the computer of the automated banking machine.

16. A method comprising:

a) detecting with a computer of an automated banking machine for the presence of a first bootable media in at least one first storage device drive of the automated banking machine;

b) booting the computer responsive to a boot record on either the first bootable media of the at least one first storage device drive or a second bootable media of a second storage device drive of the automated banking machine;

wherein when the first bootable media is detected in step (a), the booting of the computer includes:

determining responsive to a BIOS of the automated banking machine that the at least one first storage device drive requires a BIOS boot password;

5 requiring at least once for a user to input the BIOS boot password, wherein when an inputted password corresponds to a BIOS boot password stored in the BIOS of the computer, the computer is booted responsive to a first boot record on the first bootable media; and

10 wherein when the first bootable media is not detected in step (a) the booting of the computer includes:

15 determining responsive to a BIOS of the automated banking machine that the second storage device drive does not require the BIOS boot password, wherein the computer is booted responsive to the boot record on the second bootable media of the second storage device drive without requiring a user to input the BIOS boot password.

17. Computer readable media bearing instructions which are operative to cause the computer in the automated banking machine to cause the automated banking machine to carry out the method steps recited in claim 16.

18. The computer readable media according to claim 17, wherein the instructions include a file that is operative to update a flash memory device of the computer of the automated banking machine.

19. A method comprising:

- a) detecting with a computer of an automated banking machine that a bootable media is present in at least one alternative storage device drive of the automated banking machine, wherein a BIOS of the computer specifies that a BIOS password is required for the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive;
- b) prompting at least once for a user to input the BIOS boot password;
- c) determining that an inputted password corresponds to the BIOS boot password stored in the BIOS of the computer
- d) booting software of the computer responsive to a first boot record on the bootable media of the at least one alternative storage device drive;

- e) restarting the computer;
- f) detecting with the computer that a bootable media is not present in the at least one alternative storage device drive; and
- g) booting the computer responsive to a boot record on a bootable media of a default storage device drive without requiring a user to input the BIOS boot password.

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20. Computer readable media bearing instructions which are operative to cause the computer in the automated banking machine to cause the automated banking machine to carry out the method steps recited in claim 19.

21. The computer readable media according to claim 20, wherein the instructions include a file that is operative to update a flash memory device of the computer of the automated banking machine.

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22. An automated banking machine comprising:

a computer, wherein the computer includes a BIOS, wherein the BIOS includes a BIOS boot password, and wherein the BIOS specifies a default storage device drive which does not require a boot password;

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at least one input device in operative connection with the computer;

at least one transaction function device in operative connection with the computer; and

at least one first storage device drive and a second storage device drive in operative connection with the computer, wherein the second storage device drive corresponds to the default storage device drive specified in the BIOS, wherein when the computer detects a bootable media associated with the at least one first storage device drive, the computer is operative to require a user to input a BIOS boot password through the at least one input device prior to booting responsive to a boot record associated with the bootable media of the at least one first storage device drive, wherein when the computer does not detect a bootable media associated with the at least one first storage device drive, the computer is operative to boot responsive to a boot record on a bootable media of the second storage device drive without requiring a user to input the BIOS boot password.

23. The machine according to claim 22, wherein when the bootable media of the at least one first storage device drive is detected by the computer and the BIOS boot password has not been inputted thorough the at least one input device within a predetermined amount of time, the computer is operative to automatically boot responsive to the boot record associated with the bootable media of the second storage device drive.

24. The machine according to claim 22, wherein when the bootable media of the at least one first storage device drive is detected by the computer and at least one password inputted through the at least one input device does not correspond to the BIOS boot password, the computer is operative to automatically boot responsive to the boot record associated with the bootable media of the second storage device drive.

25. The machine according to claim 22, wherein the second storage device drive and associated bootable media corresponds to a hard drive.

26. The machine according to claim 25, wherein the bootable media for the at least one first storage device drive includes a portable bootable media.

27. The machine according to claim 26, wherein the portable bootable media includes a floppy disk.

28. The machine according to claim 26, wherein the portable bootable media includes a CD.

29. The machine according to claim 26, wherein the portable bootable media includes a DVD.

30. The machine according to claim 26, wherein the portable bootable media includes a portable hard drive.

31. The machine according to claim 22, wherein the at least one first storage device drive corresponds to a first portable storage device drive and a second portable storage device drive, wherein the second storage device drive corresponds to a hard drive, wherein the BIOS includes a boot order, wherein the boot order specifies a sequence for storage device drives in which the computer is operative to attempt to boot from, wherein the boot order includes the sequence of: the first portable storage media device drive, the second portable storage media device drive and the hard drive.

32. The machine according to claim 22, wherein the computer includes a BIOS setup program, wherein the computer is operative to require that a user input through the at least one input device, the BIOS boot password prior being granted access to modify the BIOS through the BIOS setup program.

33. The machine according to claim 22, wherein the computer includes a BIOS setup program and a BIOS program password, wherein the computer is operative to require that a user input through the at least one input device, the BIOS program password prior being granted access to modify the BIOS with the BIOS setup program.

34. The machine according to claim 22, wherein the transaction function device includes a cash dispenser, wherein when the computer has booted responsive to the boot record of the bootable media of the second storage device drive, the computer is operative to cause the cash dispenser to dispense cash responsive to at least one further input through the at least one input device.